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Congress of the United States

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February 9, 2012

Ms. Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section on Administration
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

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Dear Ms. Brown,

I wish to express my support for Saratoga & North Creek Railroad's effort to begin service on the rail line from North Creek to Tahawus in New York State. It has come to my attention that they are seeking a permit to extend their common carrier operations on this line for the purpose of transporting mine tailings and other work. This new industrial activity has the potential to bring new jobs and development to rural New York, and for that reason I respectfully request that you give Saratoga & North Creek Railroad's application quick and full consideration.

This project has wide ranging support at the local level, including from many villages and towns in the area, local Chambers of Commerce and economic development organizations that have had the opportunity to assess and review the merits of the project. The work that Saratoga & North Creek Railroad intend to carry out has the potential to allow for new site reclamation activities, provide a source of construction aggregate for the State of New York, augment existing rail activity in the region and offer new employment opportunities to the community.

As you review Saratoga & North Creek Railroad's application, please know it has my full support. Thank you for your time, and please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. My door is always open.

Sincerely,

Bill Owens
Member of Congress